

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
and
NOTICE OF FILING OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS
concerning
ADOPTION OF A BASIN PLAN AMENDMENT FOR THE CONTROL OF
SALT AND BORON DISCHARGES INTO THE
LOWER SAN JOAQUIN RIVER

The Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Regional Board) will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River basins (Basin Plan) and a draft "functionally equivalent" environmental document prepared pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.5 and Title 23 California Code of Regulations sections 3775-3782 addressing the salt and boron impairment in the Lower San Joaquin River (LSJR). After hearing testimony, the Regional Board may close the hearing and act on the proposals or continue the hearing and vote at a future public hearing.

Time and Location of Public Hearing:

Date: 9 and/or 10 September 2004

Time: to be determined

Place: 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Additional Information

Interested persons may obtain:

- Confirmation of the date, time, and location approximately two weeks before the hearing at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb5/board_meetings/index.html#2004
- The draft staff report for the proposed amendments including the environmental documentation will be available after 26 July 2004 at:
http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb5/programs/tmdl/salt_boron/index.html

Or you may contact Eric Oppenheimer at (916) 464-4844 or oppenhe@rb5s.swrcb.ca.gov

Proposed Amendment

The proposed Basin Plan Amendment includes: a total maximum daily load (TMDL) addressing salt and boron impairment in the LSJR; and an implementation program for the control of salt and boron discharges into the LSJR. The Basin Plan Amendment would apply to entities responsible for agricultural, wetland, municipal, and industrial discharges to the LSJR and its tributaries, from Mendota Dam to the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis. Draft environmental documents have been prepared for the proposed amendments, which conclude that the proposed Basin Plan Amendment may have significant adverse effects on the environment. The environmental documents include a statement of overriding considerations (CEQA Guidelines Section 1603).

Providing Comments

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed amendment. To be included in the written response to comments included in the final administrative record, written comments must be submitted by 25 August 2004 to Eric Oppenheimer, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. At the hearing, interested persons will be provided the opportunity to present oral comments to the Regional Board and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony may be limited in time by the Regional Board Chair. Regional Board meeting procedures are found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Sections 647-647.5 and 649-649.6 and are available upon request.

Accessibility

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Janice Tanaka at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

Kenneth D. Landau, Assistant Executive Officer

23 July 2004